Dear Roger,

11/27/75

Earlier today I almost wrote you but decided instead to take things as easy as possible, to catch up on unread clippings and articles, etc. I did, when I got up, write Midgley a letter my wife has retyped.

My reason for writing is to urge more caution than I have on you. Make whatever records you may consider history needs but do not be an activist in any way. Except to sendm me a transcript. Of each one.

I'd gone to sleep when a talk show phoned and asked me to do it in about 10 minutes from now. They'll call a little before then.

The two aired showed were much more deliberately corrupt than I'd expected. There is and there can be no innocence. Minor as it may seem, there was also a breach of the understanding with me by one I trusted. I take this from the content and from a call I had from a participant, who was given to understand, after my name was used to turn him on, that the CBS crew did not like me. To this effect. Later I'll tell you the little more if it is relevant.

As you know, for two years my concern has not been whether this awful thing comes apart but how. The readings I now get are more serious on this, the internal warfare more bitter, and the incompetence of those in whom there was best hope is visible and their ethics do not exist. Perhaps this will change, with need.

As of now I'd say the situation is touchier and the hope of avoiding more scapegoating not as good.

Post Mortem is too tough, too definitive. Little attention as it gets it will have more impact than it has already and it will have many worrying much.

In time this will get to CBS and I'd like to hope it holds enough decent people, some in top management, for there to be consequences. I'll do whatever I can. I'll also havd my own interest in mind.

What CBS has done that I can establish is a godsend for those interested in preserving thr fairness doctrine. I have heard of the conflict and have to learn who they are and if they are willing to touch the subject.

The CBS record in this case, meaning the first show in particular, is the worst yet. You may have detected enough from Post Mortem. The deliberateness is beyond question. The number of those witting can't be small. Of those who were participants I am confident all had good intelligences. Those not witting needed no more.

There cam have been no researchers working on this without their also knowing. Like what questions were avoided with Weston when they were essential to all the show said. Or the lie that there is nothing new. This, without consultation with counsel, I regard as hurtful to me and deliberate in intent. Nothing new from all those law suits? Nothing new in all those executive session transcripts (and CBS library bought from me) with all they say about what the Commission had and knew, with all they say not only about intent but about fact, like the locations of wounds?

So, with any kind of help and from the existing situation itself this may get very rough. I may ask to be heard bu a Congressional committee on this, but not not and not necessarily the committees that have been in the news. I'll wait until all the shows are aired. They gave no time on the others. They may be holding off for more court work, theirs or others, on RFK. On King they have asked for an oral argumeent before the Tennessee State Court of Criminal Appeals on 12/8. Earlier they went to the wrong appeals court and got thrown out. I have their pleadings and their own pleadings defeat them. One possible inference is they were spending stockholders' money foolishly for a deliberate stall while building a phoney record they can use on their show, the one they control, to pretend there is a conspiracy against them getting evidence.

I have a notion, only a notion, that they have misread them national attitude. IIll be interested in the ratings. I think they will do and have done more poorly than they had expected. My mail fro two years has been fantastic and all one way. I'm getting glowing letters from supporters and friends of both Buckleys, for example. And I've had no single call except from a disgusted student on these shows. I think they may have laid an egg. On King, with the non-new disclosures presented as new, they may do better if there is less interest. I've added after the show. Be cool and detached. Best,